

AN OLD BOOK WORM.

WHAT HE FINDS IN A BOOK BESIDE THE LETTER PRESS.

Fortunes in Fine Books—Lavish Expenditures to Illustrate Modern Literature. What New York Publishers Pay for Engravings and Printing.

He was such a queer-looking old gentleman that the writer paused in his walk to examine him more closely. He was standing in the doorway of one of those dimly lighted book stores which line Nassau street, between Fulton and Ann, eagerly scanning the pages of a hoary volume through his old-fashioned gold spectacles. His wide-awake straw hat had drifted back to the apex of his crown, and had anchored itself permanently among the straggling strands of snowy hair which creased the frayed collar of his alpaca coat. His white waistcoat was unbuttoned, and the ends of the black silk handkerchief which served him in lieu of a necktie trailed defiantly.

"I have just made an astounding discovery, sir," remarked the old gentleman. "Have the kindness to look at this book and tell me what you think of it."

It was one of a set of four volumes of the works of Pliny the Younger, published in Strasbourg in 1870. The type was good and the book was in fair condition. The binding was yellow, and four tiny strings of sheepskin hung from the corners, in order that the reader might tie the volume up securely when he was done with it. Thousands of just such books may be seen any day exposed for sale on the quays at Paris. They are the out-throwings of the early French and German printing houses, and can be purchased for a few francs. The writer did not see anything extraordinary about the book, and he said so frankly.

BESIDE THE LETTER PRESS. "There is something in a book beside the letter press, the printer's name and the date," he said. "See here!" and with that he gingerly lifted up the edge of the vellum binding and exposed the fragments of two or three sentences inscribed upon it in black letter, with here and there an illuminated capital rich in arabesque and gilding.

"That," declared the old gentleman, with an air of triumph, after surveying the crumbled scroll critically for a few moments, "was originally a misal transcribed with laborious care by some Twelfth century monk in the seclusion of the scriptorium of a medieval cloister. The old fellow probably took four or five years to complete it."

"I tell you there was some chance of a man writing a book that was fit to read when he knew beforehand that it would take four or five months to complete every single copy that was exposed for sale."

"There have been great changes in the publishing business since I gave it up," he remarked with a quaver in his voice, "changes, to my mind, for the better. One of my chief objections to printing used to be that it did away with all that was beautiful in books. What can compare in beauty with the Tenth century misal? The gospels inscribed in silver and gold letters on purple vellum; every capital a flower, a tree, and the very margins glorified with parti-colored figures of men, birds, beasts and fishes. Still, this objection of mine is slowly melting away. You see, in my day the books we printed never had any illustrations to speak of. A few wood cuts, perhaps, and more rarely a steel line engraving, and that was all."

CHANGE IN BOOKMAKING. The old gentleman was right; thirty years have wrought a marvelous change in book-making. Photographs and the wonderful lives process, by which a fac-simile plate is produced directly from the object, have come to the publishers' aid. Etching has taken the place of the old steel line engraving to a certain extent, and probably there are not one-tenth as many steel engravings produced annually now as there were ten years ago. Only last year an art critic wrote that the people who prefer line engravings to etchings are the same people who prefer white marble mantels and horsehair furniture to carved oak and velvet plush. Fifty processes exist to-day where there were but one or two before, and if their development equals their promise the book of the future will indeed be a marvelous production.

One would naturally suppose that the increased facilities afforded by these multitudinous processes would minimize the cost of preparing a book for the market; but such is not the case. Each publisher vies with his competitors in making the work upon which he is for the moment engaged as elaborate as possible. Where formerly a few simple wood cuts were deemed all that were necessary he now presents the reader with half a dozen etchings or engravings, and thus he is called upon to expend an almost incredible sum before any return is obtained. George P. Putnam, the father of the present publisher, issued an artist's edition of Washington Irving's "Sketch Book" in 1867. It contained 134 illustrations, all wood cuts, and Mr. Putnam paid out \$25,000 before he got back one cent. In those days this was considered a fabulous sum to invest in one work, and the number of engravings contained within the covers of the sketch book were the wonder and admiration of the other book-makers.

The labor of preparing these volumes for publication extended over two entire years. It was begun in the latter part of 1864, and the first copies were not issued from the press until 1867. This work pales into insignificance before the princely fortunes invested each year in new books by the publishers of to-day.—New York Star.

CITY MAIL DELIVERY IN 1860. "In 1860 such a thing as a postman or a carrier walking ten or fifteen hours a day delivering mail matter will never be heard of, for the simple reason there will be none in existence then," remarked a scientific man the other day to a reporter.

"How will the mail be delivered?" "Everything will be reduced to a fine system, and a letter will be delivered in three seconds after its arrival at the postoffice. Each house in a big city will be connected with the general postoffice or branch station, as the case may be, with a pneumatic tube, large enough to carry a good-sized package. At present such a system of delivery cannot be put into practice because it would be too expensive. A century hence civilization will rise to such a high and prosperous point that a system of quick delivery by means of pneumatic tubes will certainly be in vogue. It could be done now, only it would bankrupt a city. The tube from Twenty-third street to the Western Union building shows how nicely it works. A letter or telegraphic message takes just two seconds to go the two and a half miles. The quickest means of transit are sure to be adopted in the long run. It is the evolution of progress and nothing can stop it short of the universe. Not only will private houses have these tubes, but all of our large cities will be pneumatically connected. Chicago will be perhaps ten seconds by letter from New York and San Francisco a minute or so. It will change a great many things and do away with the steam cars as a mail carrier. The system is yet in its infancy.—New York Mail and Express.

The Summer Girl.

Now, do you know that there is no use talking, the summer girl is the girl for me. Is there anything prettier than a woman in a white dress or a white dress on a woman? Well, I should say not. There is where our country girls take the shine off of our city girls. They don't wear make-up and plishes in the winter because they haven't got them to wear, but the country girl in the summer at church, at camp meeting, or at a picnic, in her clean, starched muslin, lawn or calicoes—well, I can't express myself as I would like to. I only wish I was out in the fields somewhere where I could holler.—Comptroller Campbell in Globe-Democrat.

No Right to Their Children.

Millions of mothers all over the United States gather their little ones around them, never dreaming that by the law they have no right to these children. They do not know that the sole legal right to the children rests with the father in all except three of the states. Most men do not know it. A majority of fathers, if they did know it, would never assert their rights against the mother. But now and then a father who is as bad as the law knows his legal rights and assumes them.—Lucy Stone in Boston Globe.

A New Orleans Woman's Success.

Ten years ago a paper box maker died in New Orleans, leaving his widow with nothing but a knowledge of his trade. She went to work in her attic room making boxes, and was so successful in getting orders that she soon had more than she could do. She hired help, added room after room, and now employs thirty-five hands. She travels for her own house, taking long drumming tours through Texas and Louisiana, and is getting rich fast.—New York Sun.

She Reaches the Point.

If a woman "jumped at conclusions" without reaching a satisfying conclusion, similar to that of man, who reasons from facts and statistics, weighing carefully, pondering slowly, it might do to say that her mind is not worth much, but the fact that she jumps actually to the point proves that her mind is superior. Her deductive mind reaches the same conclusion that the inductive mind of man reaches.—Cleveland Leader.

To Cleanse a Feeding Bottle.

Mothers should have two feeding bottles for the babe, so that one may be used when the other is being cleansed. A good way to clean the bottle is to rinse it out thoroughly with a strong solution of bicarbonate of soda after it has been used, and then let it soak in clean water until needed.—Herald of Health.

Little Tricks in Dressmaking.

It seems there are artists who teach French dressmakers certain little tricks, and that it is not all inborn grace which teaches them how to knot a ribbon. One dressmaker told an American correspondent that she paid an artist \$12 to learn how to make a certain bow.—Boston Transcript.

Quinine for Children.

Honey is recommended by a writer in The Lancet as one of the best disguises of the taste of quinine, and especially valuable to this end when administering the drug to children. The dose should be placed in the center of a teaspoonful of honey.—Hall's Journal of Health.

Woman Suffrage in Sweden.

Women in Stockholm, Sweden, are qualified to vote at local elections, but until recently have not made much use of the privilege. The numbers now are largely increasing, and ladies, too, are actively engaged in a dress reform movement.—Democrat's Monthly.

Woman's Low Wages.

Acid pulp for paper making is produced in Sweden at a cost of one cent per pound. The labor is mostly performed by women, whose wages are from twelve to twenty cents a day.—Exchange.

Venus at Long Branch.

The belle of Long Branch is a beautiful young Jewess named Stella Isaacs, whose face is a perfect fac-simile of that of Venus, seen on artistically cut cameos.—Long Branch Letter.

The great trouble about rules of etiquette for society is, that to some they become custom, and stand superior to common sense and courtesy.—Democrat's Monthly.

On Both Sides.

"It's a wife's duty to be pleasant," says an exchange. Yes, and it's the husband's duty to make her duty easy.—Philadelphia Call.

Jennie June's First Newspaper Success. I well remember the sunny Sunday morning in early summer, just thirty-two years ago, when my father and I stopped at the postoffice on our way home from church, as was our custom, and I received, instead of the thin document I expected, a bulky package containing a voluminous letter of my own. This letter had been sent the week before to a newspaper friend in New York, and described an event which had some importance, and seemed interesting enough to me to warrant a detailed account of its incidents and personages. My friend had been struck with what he was pleased to call the "good newspaper style," and read it to Mr. Charles A. Dana, then managing editor of The New York Tribune. Mr. Dana confirmed his judgment, and said: "If the author will revise it, taking out some of the personal allusions, I will print it." These momentous words were copied on a regular correspondence slip, which was all the formidable envelope contained besides my own letter; and can you imagine the thrill, the sudden opening wide of the whole universe which they occasioned?

It is not much now to write for newspapers. The ordinary "newspaper" man, and especially the "newspaper" woman in our large cities, has become so numerous as to be a very common thing, and is sometimes so unscrupulous as to be considered most undesirable for companionship or association. But in those days it was very different. There were then no "society" columns, no women correspondents, no woman's department in any newspaper. Barnum's Museum, Arthur's Magazine and Godey's Lady's Book were the recreations and the authorities of women, and they were all semi-religious and highly moral in tone and character, as befitted the literature and amusements for women and children.—Jennie June.

It is well enough to calculate upon difficulties, but to include the possibility of defeat also evidences a weak man.—Jud Lafagan.

False Hair and Bustles.

Parisian belles, ancient and modern, eschew false hair and bustles. The tendency of the times among Paris fashionables is toward nature and away from art.

Fruit for the Children.

There's little to be feared in eating good fruit. A barrel of apples in the house where the children and everybody can have free access is a good institution.

Pouch leaves pounded to a pulp, and applied to a bruise or wound from a rusty nail or a simple cut, will give immediate relief.

General Advertisements.

H. HACKFELD & CO.

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STEEL RAILS, FENCE WIRES,
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And a Large Variety of other Goods too Numerous to Mention.

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Has received per late arrivals a full assortment of STAPLE AND FANCY GROCERIES.

Consisting in part of

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COOKED LINSEED MEAL.

It is the greatest Flesh former, Milk and Butter producer in use.
(1st) Cake Meal shows about 27 per cent. of nutritive matter; this nearly 30 per cent. 100 lbs. of this meal is equal to 100 lbs. of oats, or 200 lbs. of corn, or to 750 lbs. of wheat bran. Also, our Unrivalled MIXED FEED, as well as our usual supply of the best kinds of
Hay, Oats, Wheat, Corn, Etc. Etc.
Which is offered at the Lowest Market Rates, and delivered free to any part of the city.

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Always keep on hand a most elegant assortment of

FINE JEWELRY,

SOLID AND PLATED SILVER WARE

Ever brought to this market.

Clocks, Watches, Bracelets, Neck-

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and Guards, Sleeve Buttons

Studs, Etc., Etc.

And ornaments of all kinds.

Elegant Solid Silver Tea Sets.

And all kinds of silver ware suitable for presentation

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Made to order.

Repairing of watches and jewelry carefully at-

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SODA WATER,

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Aerated Waters of All Kinds,

Fruit Syrups and Essences.

Our Goods are acknowledged the BEST. NO CORKS

WE USE PATENT STOPPERS

In all our Bottles.

We invite particular attention to our Patent

Filter, recently introduced, by which all waters used

in our manufactures is absolutely freed from all im-

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We deliver our Goods free of charge to all parts

of the city.

Careful attention paid to Islands Orders Address,

THE CRYSTAL SODA WORKS,

P. O. BOX, 307, HONOLULU, H. I.

Telephone No. 298.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS

Waihee Sugar Company.

AT THE ANNUAL MEETING OF THE stockholders of the Waihee Sugar Company, held this day, the following persons were elected to office for the ensuing year:

President, Cal. Z. S. Spaulding.
Vice-President, P. P. Harting.
Secretary, Joseph O. Carter.
Treasurer, Wm. G. Irwin.
Auditor, Hon. James I. Howsett.

J. O. CARTER,
Secretary Waihee Sugar Co.
Honolulu, November 3, 1886.

J. LYONS.

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Sacks Wheat, Best
Sacks Barley, Best
Sacks Corn, Best, Whole,
Sacks Corn, Best, Cracked,
Sacks Bran, Coarse and Fine.

Sacks Beans, White,
Sacks Beans, Red,
Sacks Beans, Bayou,
Sacks Beans, Horse,
Sacks Beans, Lima

SACKS POTATOES, BEST in GUNNIES

Cases Necesses,
Cases Extra Soda Crackers,
Cases Medium Bread,
Cases Cracked Wheat, 10 lb. bags,
Cases Corn Meal, white, 10 lb. bags,
Cases Corn Meal, 10 lb. bags,
Cases Corn Starch.

Casks Dupee Hams,

Cases C. & A. Hams, Cases E. B. Bacon.

Cases Fairbank's Lard, 5 lb. pail,
Cases Fairbank's Lard, 5 lb. pail,
Cases Fairbank's Lard, 10 lb. pail

Cases Whitney's Butter, in tins,
Half firkins Butter, Gilt Edge,
Qr. firkins Butter, G. 1 Edge

Cases New Cheese.

Boxes and bills. Salt Codfish,
Bills Three Columbia River Salmon

Cases Laundry Starch,
Boxes Brown Laundry Soap

Pure Java Coffee, Roasted and Ground, 1 lb. tins,
Sacks Green Coffee,
Chests Japan Tea, 1 lb. papers,
Chests Japan Tea, 1/2 lb. papers

Boxes Raisins, London Layers,
4 boxes Raisins, London Layers,
Boxes Raisins, Muscat

Drums Citron,
Boxes Currants,
Cases Choccolate,
Cases Mixed Pickles,
Cases Spices, assorted, all size

Sacks English Walnuts,
Sacks Soft Shell Almonds.

Cases California Honey, 1 lb. tins